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Egypt's AIDS cure device 'needs more tests'

CAIRO: Egypt's military said on Saturday that a device it claimed it invented to cure AIDS and Hepatitis C needs six more months of testing.

The army had earlier promised to reveal the technology to the public today after making what experts dismissed as an outlandish claim last February.

The head of the army's Engineering Agency had said the military had produced an "astonishing, miraculous" set of inventions that could detect AIDS, hepatitis and other viruses without taking blood samples.

The claim caused uproar among scientists and the public, with many pointing out that the technology had not been properly verified.

The assertion hit a sensitive nerve in Egypt, where Hepatitis C is an epidemic. On Saturday, a military doctor said the blood purification device needed further tests before it could be released to the public.

He said doctors had started testing one of the machines, "Complete Cure Device", on 80 Hepatitis C patients who were also being treated with medication. **AP**